

SCULPTURES & DESIGNS IN WOOD

35th ANNUAL WOOD CARVING COMPETITION AND SHOW

NOVEMBER 1, 2025

Greer Event Center
301 E. Poinsett Street
Greer, SC 29651

Competition & Judging Standards

The judges, whose decisions are final, will carefully evaluate each piece with attention to originality, design, execution, finish, artistic presentation, and composition. All judging will be based on the pieces presented.

Competitors are encouraged to enter and compete at their respective highest level recognizing that successful competition in the more difficult areas/levels has the potential for the highest reward. Any changes to these rules will be posted at the show.

Class Definitions and Color Designations

Novice: (Red) Beginning carvers who have carved for less than 3 years and have not won more than six (6) blue or red ribbons or won best of class in previous competitions at the Novice Class level.

Intermediate: (Yellow) Those carvers who have not previously competed in open and not eligible to compete in novice.

Open: (Blue) Experience, advanced carver or anyone who desires to compete at the highest level.

Competition Rules

1. Only the signed work created solely by the entrant is eligible for competition.
2. Eligible carvings are those executed from the wood or bark of a tree. Stone, nuts, seeds, and gourds are allowed in "Non-Wood" category only and will not be judged in the Best of Show. Other materials are allowed in a support or subsidiary function or as a structural support. The only exception is "Non-Wood" category carved pieces. Marquetry and intarsia are not eligible for entry.
3. Artists are responsible to place their carvings in the proper carving category/class.
4. A maximum of three carvings per carver per category subdivision. N or P designates a subdivision of the category.
5. Each piece entered must have the permanent signature or mark of the artist. The signature must be covered until all judging is completed.
6. Carvings that have previously won a blue ribbon in Sculptures and Designs in Wood may not be entered in competition again.

7. Carvings can be no more than two (2) years old, and not shown in a PWCC show in the same class. See check off blocks on the registration form. PWCC will refuse any entry deemed to be in poor taste.

8. Entries are submitted at the sole responsibility and risk of the artist. PWCC, official show committee and/or PWCC members are not responsible for damage or loss from any cause.

9. Use of molded inserts for fins, antlers, wings or beaks is not permitted. Molded eyes and molded feet are per-same class. PWCC will refuse any entry

10. Each entry must have a tag with the carver/entry number displayed on the carving before it is placed on competition tables. Numbered tags will be provided and placed on entries at check-in.

11. Painted finish: A carving is considered painted if any portion of the carving is painted. Colored washes or paint which obscures the grain are included in this category.

12. Natural Finish: A carving is considered a natural finish if the grain shows through the finish. Natural finished pieces may be stained, textured, or burned to accentuate the detail but the grain of the wood must be visible.

13. The Registration Chairman (or designee) has the sole responsibility of determining suitability for admission.

14. No carving may be moved after judging has begun.

15. The decisions of the judges and Show Chairman are final.

16. All carvings entered in each category will be judged against other entries in that category. Judges will have discretion to withhold top awards in any category with less than 3 carvings or where inferior quality is exhibited.

Awards will be issued accordingly.

17. Categories will not be combined regardless of the number of carvings in a category.

18. The Best of Class first, entries of open, Intermediate, and Novice classes, with any additional carvings as determined by the judges (a minimum of nine carvings) will be moved to a designated table for the Best of Show judging.

19. Entries may not be removed from competition prior to the end of the show. All entries must be checked out at the end of the show by the entrant or their designee.

20. Carvings from rough outs of someone else's design are accepted as a "Rough-Out " or "Instructor Assisted" categories only and will not be judged in the Best of Show. Rough-outs designed by entrant carver and identified on registration form as such, are allowed in any category without restriction.

21. Winner of over all Best of Show (1st, 2nd, 3rd) will not be a candidate for class Best of Show Theme.

22. Winner of over all Best of Show (1st, 2nd, 3rd) or Best of Show Theme will not be candidate for special competition awards.

CATEGORIES AND DESCRIPTIONS

C0XX designates a base category, (N or P) designates a subdivision of the category into either natural finish or painted finish

C1XX designates category without subdivision

C2XX Designates special categories not eligible for any “Best of” award.

C001 (N or P) Aquatic Creatures, Reptiles, Amphibians, Fish & Dinosaurs - Realistic/proportioned, in the round, representations of the named types of creatures

C002 (N or P) Animals - Realistic/ proportioned, in the round, representations of Animals

C003 (N or P) Birds - Realistic/ proportioned, in the round

C004 (N or P) Ducks & Other Fowl Realistic/ proportioned, in the round, representations of ducks

C005 (N or P) Human Caricatures, Single Small (2" to 8") - Carefully exaggerated figure in the round

C006 (N or P) Human Caricatures, Single Large (Over 8") - Carefully exaggerated figure in the round. Other creature components of the presentation are subsidiary.

C007 (N or P) Human Caricatures, Group - Carefully exaggerated, in the round, human figures as the primary object of the presentation. Other creature components of the presentation are subsidiary.

C008 (N or P) Creature Caricatures - Carefully exaggerated, in the round, non-human creature or creatures as the primary object of the presentation. Human figure components are subsidiary and allowed.

C009 (N or P) Human Figures, Single - Realistic/proportioned, in the round, representations of a human figure of either sex as the primary object of the presentation. Non-human complimentary components are subsidiary and allowed.

C010 (N or P) Human Figures, Group - Realistic/proportioned, in the round, representations of a human figure group of either or both sexes as the primary object of the presentation. Non-human complimentary components are subsidiary and allowed

C011 (N or P) Human Bust - Realistic/proportioned, in the round, representations of the human bust of either sex.

C012 (N or P) Santa - Realistic/proportioned or caricature, in the round, representations of Santa as the primary object of the presentation.

C013 (N or P) Relief Carving – Realistic or caricature, shallow and deep relief wood carving.

C014 (N or P) Stylized - An artistic representation of a real subject, an object of fantasy or a mystical subject using primarily form and presentation to depict the subject. Work in this category usually has a minimum of details and often distorts all or part of the subject.

C015(N or P) Christmas Tree Ornaments - A Christmas item designed to be hung (must include hanging means) and carved as a decorative piece

C016(N or P) Walking Sticks or Canes – Items must be carved and be of a size that would be used as an aid in walking or hiking.

C100 Chip Carving - A carving consisting of a series of precise regular, triangular or wedge shaped cuts creating an engraving lower than the surface of the wood.

C101 Miniatures - Any carving (including the base) that is carved on a small scale and that will fit in a cube of 2" inside dimensions.

C102 Large Format Carvings – Any carving in which one or more of the primary objects exceeds 36" in any dimension. Example: Life- sized cigar store Indian, chain saw carvings, etc.

C103 Utilitarian item - An item carved in the round, the primary function of which is utilitarian, but may include decoration to enhance its aesthetic appeal. Examples: stool, spoon, trowel, cup

C104 Bark Carving of any type for which there is no other category

C105 Found Wood— driftwood/weathered posts/ weathered wood/cypress knees/wood knots/ fallen tree branches or sticks. Not to include Bark carvings.

C107 Spirit Faces— Carved in wood or bark.

C108 Carved Wooden Eggs

C111 Miscellaneous- Any wooden item not covered in other categories

C112 Religious/Spiritual Objects and Symbols - Includes praying hands, Angels, Cross, Buddha, Menorah, Scrolls, Orthodox Icons, etc

C113 Ornamental—(New 2019) Frames, moldings, gunstocks, signs, geometric designs, crests, lettering, emblems, architectural panels, Furniture adornments, rosettes

C114 Floral —(New 2019) chain or garland of flowers, leaves, or ribbons , floral still life, acanthus leaves

C200 Pyrography— Wood burning, will not be eligible for any “Best of” award.

C201 Non-wood– Carved pieces such as nuts, golf balls, stone, or gourds. Carvings will not be eligible for any “Best of” award.

C202 Soap Carving - Objects carved from bar of soap. Carving will not be eligible for any “Best of” award.

C203 Rough-out Carving - Any item carved from an rough-out of someone else’s design . The carving is not eligible for any “Best of “ award.

C204 Instructor Assisted – Class pieces, rough-outs allowed, but will not be eligible for any “Best of” award.